

Top Scams and Tips to Prevent Becoming a Victim

Top 5 Scams:

- 1) Cryptocurrency
- 2) Technical Support
- 3) Government Impersonators
- 4) Artificial Intelligence
- 5) Romance Scams

19 Tips to Prevent becoming a Victim of Scams:

1. **Always check your credit cards statements and bank balances for unknown withdrawals.**
2. **Pick Caregivers with caution.** Go through a bonded and Insured Agency. Do background checks.
3. **Keep Valuables inventoried, locked up, photographed, and videoed.**
4. **Shred everything with your name and personal information on it before throwing in trash.**
5. **Use a locked mailbox.** Sign up for USPS.com "Informed Delivery".
6. **Do a free annual credit search** AnnualCreditReport.com . Experian and Equifax are also legitimate.
7. **Freeze your Credit Card** so no one else can get a credit card in your name. Equifax.com
8. **Don't WIFI personal or financial information in public places.**
9. **Use Caller ID to prevent Spoofing.** Artificial Intelligence can mimic real people. Just hang up.
10. **"You have won the lottery" phone calls** asking you to pay fees using money gram or cryptocurrency.
11. **Government Impersonators- IRS or Police** will never call to ask for money over the phone.
12. **"Someone you know is in jail asking for money".** Send money via gift cards or Bitcoins from an ATM.
13. **Romance Scams online dating or on Facebook** using false photos and names asking for money.
14. **Contractor's scams-** Check if they are licensed through the Better Business Bureau and State DCCA.
Insist on a written contract and only pay 10% or \$1,000 up front.
15. **Technical Computer Support** – Don't download software that can hijack your computer information.
16. **Don't let strangers into your home or use your cell phone.** Use a locked security door screen.
Solicitors can use a fake business card, uniform, or badge.
17. **Don't put your purse in a shopping cart unattended.**
18. **Don't invest money unless you first research and verify the company.**
19. **Purchase online only using reputable sites with a secured network and it starts with "https."**

If you become a scam victim: Report by calling

Call Police

Call your Bank and Credit Card Companies

Call Better Business Bureau

Report to that Government Agency

Call AARP Fraud Watch for Senior Victim's Support # 877-908-3360

National Elder Fraud website: Fightelderfraud.org

Adult Protective Services O# 808-832-5115